[Second Reprint]

ASSEMBLY, No. 1570

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

215th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2012 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman JOHN S. WISNIEWSKI
District 19 (Middlesex)
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District 22 (Middlesex, Somerset and Union)
Assemblywoman MILA M. JASEY
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Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblymen Diegnan, Giblin, Caputo, Chivukula, Wimberly, O'Donnell, Assemblywoman Wagner and Senator Norcross

SYNOPSIS

Requires fire suppression systems in new single and two family homes.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As amended by the General Assembly on December 17, 2012.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 1/10/2014)

AN ACT concerning new home fire safety and supplementing the "State Uniform Construction Code Act," P.L.1975, c.217 (C.52:27D-119 et seq.).

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BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "New Home Fire Safety Act."

2. As used in this act:

"Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Community Affairs.

"Fire suppression system" means an engineered or preengineered system that suppresses a fire using an extinguishing agent distributed through fixed piping and nozzles that are activated either manually or automatically. The system may include containers, nozzles, controls, automatic detection, manual releases, equipment shut downs, and alarms. In such systems, an extinguishing agent is discharged through fixed pipes and nozzles into or over a potential fire hazard.

"Manufactured home" means a unit of housing manufactured in accordance with the standards promulgated for a manufactured home by the Secretary of the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development pursuant to the "National Manufactured Housing Construction and Safety Standards Act of 1974," Pub.L.93-383 (42 U.S.C. s. 5401 et seq.).

"New home" means a dwelling not previously occupied, for which a construction permit has been issued after the effective date of P.L., c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill) and intended for residential use by not more than two households, but shall not mean a manufactured home [or] [and shall not mean] or a dwelling that is not connected to a public water system, as defined by section 131 of P.L.1977, c.224 (C.58:12A-3), the "Safe Drinking Water Act."

3. a. In any case where a change of occupancy of any building subject to the requirements of section 1 of P.L.1991, c.92 (C.52:27D-198.1) is subject to a municipal ordinance requiring the issuance of a certificate of occupancy, certificate of inspection, or other documentary certification of compliance with laws and regulations relating to safety, healthfulness, and upkeep of the premises, no such certificate shall be issued until the municipal

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined \underline{thus} is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹Assembly AHO committee amendments adopted December 6, 2012.

²Assembly floor amendments adopted December 17, 2012.

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officer or agency responsible for its issuance has received a certification from the enforcing agency that the new home is equipped with a fire suppression system that conforms to the requirements promulgated by the commissioner, pursuant to the State Uniform Construction Code and section 4 of P.L., c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill).

b. The local governing body having jurisdiction over the enforcing agency or, where the Division of Codes and Standards is the enforcing agency, the commissioner, may establish a fee which covers the cost of inspection and of issuance of the certificate; however, if an inspection is being made and a certificate is being issued evidencing compliance with section 2 of P.L.1991, c.92 (C.52:27D-198.2), the fee authorized therein shall cover the costs of complying with this section.

4. The commissioner shall modify the building subcode of the State Uniform Construction Code to require the installation of fire suppression systems in all new one- and two family homes pursuant to P.L., c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill). The modification shall require all fire suppression systems to be in compliance with subchapter 10 of chapter 10 of Title 7 of the New Jersey Administrative Code regarding Physical Connections and Cross Connection Control by Containment, and shall require the installation of separate shut-off valves and a meter for measuring water usage dedicated to fire suppression.

5. This act shall take effect on the first day of the seventh month next following the date of enactment of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill) and shall not apply to new homes built as part of a development plan or building permit approved on or before the effective date of this act.